

## Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15  
NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 ABF-01 OMB-01  
TRSE-00 HA-05 SIG-03 /094 R

DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:TNILES:EK

APPROVED BY IO:GBHELMAN

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EA/J:RKILPATRICK

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O P 271932Z JUL 78

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 189874

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, SF, WA

SUBJECT:NAMIBIA: POSSIBLE JAPANESE CONTRIBUTION TO UNTAG

REF: A) STATE 179516; B) TOKYO 12901

1. JAPANESE EMBOFF NISHIMURA CALLED ON DEPUTY  
ASSISTANT SECRETARY (IO) HELMAN JULY 26 TO RAISE SEVERAL  
QUESTIONS REGARDING POSSIBLE JAPANESE CONTRIBUTION TO  
THE ANTICIPATED UNITED NATIONS TRANSITION ASSISTANCE  
GROUP (UNTAG) IN NAMIBIA. NISHIMURA ADVISED THAT  
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JAPANESE WERE "SERIOUSLY CONSIDERING COOPERATION WITH  
UNTAG" AND WERE LOOKING AT POSSIBILITY OF PROVIDING  
"NON-MILITARY PERSONNEL AND GOODS AND EQUIPMENT." HE  
SAID THAT HE BELIEVED THAT "GOODS AND EQUIPMENT" COULD  
BE OF A MILITARY NATURE.

2. DURING ENSUING CONVERSATION, NISHIMURA POSED SEVERAL

QUESTION RELATING TO STATUS OF NAMIBIA NEGOTIATIONS. HE INDICATED THAT TOKYO WAS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN WHETHER CHANGES HAD BEEN MADE IN CONTACT GROUP PROPOSAL, WHETHER THERE WERE ANY SECRET UNDERSTANDINGS, AND WHETHER THE US BELIEVED THAT SWAPO AND SOUTH AFRICA WOULD LIVE UP TO THEIR OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE PROPOSAL. HELMAN

REVIEWED THE RESULTS OF THE JULY 10-12 LUANDA MEETING, POINTED OUT THAT BOTH PARTIES HAD ACCEPTED THE PROPOSAL WITHOUT CHANGE, AND SAID THAT WE EXPECTED BOTH SIDES TO LIVE UP TO THEIR OBLIGATIONS, ASSUMING THAT THE SECURITY COUNCIL APPROVED THE CONTACT GROUP PROPOSAL. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT FOR BOTH POLITICAL AND PRACTICAL REASONS, THE IMPLEMENTATION OF OUR PROPOSAL WOULD CERTAINLY NOT BE TROUBLE-FREE.

3. HELMAN SAID THE US WELCOMED JAPANESE INTEREST IN PARTICIPATING IN UNTAG, WHICH WE SEE AS CONSISTENT WITH IMPORTANT ROLE WHICH JAPAN PLAYS IN UN. HE NOTED THAT WE HOPE THAT THE SECURITY COUNCIL WILL ACT EXPEDITIOUSLY ON OUR PROPOSAL AND ON THE APPROVAL OF A MANDATE FOR THE SECRETARY GENERAL, PERHAPS COMPLETING THE PROCESS BY MID-AUGUST. IN VIEW OF THIS TIMING, HELMAN SUGGESTED THAT IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF THE JAPANESE COULD BE IN A POSITION TO INDICATE PRIVATELY TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL THE SORT OF CONTRIBUTION JAPAN COULD MAKE, PRIOR TO THE CONFIDENTIAL

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COMPLETION OF THE WORK ON THE DRAFT MANDATE. HE ALSO POINTED TO THE CONSIDERABLE LOGISTICAL PROBLEMS WHICH UNTAG WILL FACE, GIVEN THE LOCATION, SIZE, AND LEVEL OF DEVELOPMENT OF NAMIBIA, AND SUGGESTED THAT A JAPANESE CONTRIBUTION IN THIS AREA WOULD BE PARTICULARLY HELPFUL.

4. AS REGARDS FINANCING, HELMAN SAID THAT THE US WOULD PROBABLY PROVIDE MOST OR ALL OF THE INITIAL AIRLIFT FOR UNTAG AND THAT, ON THE BASIS OF OUR STANDING PRACTICE, WE WOULD PROVIDE THESE SERVICES ON A NON-REIMBURSABLE BASIS. HE SAID THAT WE HOPE JAPAN WOULD CONSIDER ABSORBING AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE OF THE COST OF ITS CONTRIBUTION TO UNTAG ALONG THE LINES OF THE US PRACTICE. ON THIS POINT, NISHIMURA ASKED WHETHER THE OTHER WESTERN COUNTRIES NORMALLY ABSORB THE COST OF UN PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS. HELMAN SAID HE THOUGHT THAT THE FRG HAD PROVIDED SOME NON-REIMBURSABLE AIRLIFT SERVICES FOR UNIFIL, BUT HE ADDED THAT WE DID NOT HAVE MUCH INFORMATION ON THIS POINT. NISHIMURA ALSO ASKED WHAT THE VALUE OF THE NON-REIMBURSABLE AIRLIFT SERVICES MIGHT BE, AND HELMAN PROVIDED THE VERY ROUGH ESTIMATE OF 10-15 MILLION

DOLLARS.

5. IN CONCLUSION, HELMAN SAID THAT ASSISTANT SECRETARY  
MAYNES WOULD DOUBTLESS WISH TO DISCUSS THE JAPANESE  
CONTRIBUTION TO UNTAG DURING HIS UNGA CONSULTATIONS NEXT

WEEK IN TOKYO. NISHIMURA OBSERVED THAT THIS WOULD  
PERHAPS COMPEL THE JAPANESE AUTHORITIES TO REACH AN  
EARLY DECISION REGARDING JAPAN'S POSSIBLE CONTRIBUTION.

CHRISTOPHER

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## Message Attributes

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